

should contact James Beirne, senior counsel to the committee or Betty Nevitt, staff assistant, or write the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Thursday, May 8, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. to consider revisions to Title 44/GPO.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Eric Peterson.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to receive testimony regarding S. 417, a bill to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 2002, S. 416, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to extend the expiration dates of existing authorities and enhance U.S. participation in the energy emergency program of the International Energy Agency, S. 186, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act with respect to purchases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve by entities in the insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes, and the energy security of the United States of America.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, May 13, 1997, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

For further information, please call Karen Hunsicker, counsel or Betty Nevitt, staff assistant.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. on pending committee business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, for purposes of conducting a hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, & Recreation which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider S. 357, a bill to authorize the Bureau of Land Management to manage the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, May 1, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on DOD at risk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services to meet on Thursday, May 1, 1997 at 2 p.m. for a hearing on "National Missile Defense and the ABM Treaty".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a Public Health and Safety Subcommittee hearing on "Biomedical Research priorities: Who Should Decide?" during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND REGULATORY RELIEF

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, to conduct an oversight hearing on the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sub-

committee on Immigration, of the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 11:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on "Immigration and Naturalization Service Oversight: The Criminal Record Verification Process for Citizenship Applicants."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 1997, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 1997, in open session, to receive testimony on Department of Defense depot maintenance privatization initiatives in review of S. 450, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Middlebury College and its student production of "The Last Supper Restoration." This group of fine arts students will be one of eight participating in this year's American College Theater Festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts from April 14 to April 22, 1997. The production was chosen from among 900 presented on campuses throughout the United States in 1996.

The student playwright, Michael Kanin, was presented with the National Student Playwriting Award and has been recognized for his tremendous efforts by the Association for Theatre in Higher Education. The students' work is in the finest tradition of Vermont and truly represent the creative spirit of our Green Mountain State.

This accomplishment is testimony to the outstanding education and diverse opportunities provided by a true center of excellence, Middlebury College. Once again, I would like to extend my best wishes and congratulations to the Middlebury College thespians.●

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH O'DONNELL

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special

American, Ms. Elizabeth O'Donnell of Kenmore, NY. I am proud to announce that Ms. O'Donnell is one of three winners of the 1996 HEROES Awards from the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association. This honor is given each year to three individuals who make outstanding and unique humanitarian contributions to local sports programs throughout the United States.

In 1976, Elizabeth O'Donnell abandoned her lifelong dream of professional ice skating to find a more fulfilling challenge. It was at that time that Ms. O'Donnell left the Ice Capades to teach blind and handicapped people of all ages to ice skate. Motivated by her love of the sport and desire to share the freedom of movement, as well as the physical and psychological benefits which accompany skating, Ms. O'Donnell founded the Skating Association for the Blind and Handicapped [SABAH].

In her 20 years as coach, administrator, and president of SABAH, Ms. O'Donnell has taught more than 8,500 physically challenged people to leave behind their wheelchairs and crutches and learn to skate with specially designed walkers and harness systems. A number of Ms. O'Donnell's students have even learned to overcome their disabilities as a result of her coaching techniques.

Ms. O'Donnell's work might best be summarized in the words of Buffalo mayor, Anthony Massiello, the person who nominated her for the 1996 Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association HEROES Award: "For those people who might have known 'sports' as an abstract, Elizabeth has succeeded in translating the joy of achievement and accomplishment, which is so often overlooked in competitive sports, into a triumph of spirit."

Mr. President, I want to give my warmest congratulations to Ms. O'Donnell and to the people whose lives she helps make better. Her 1996 Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association HEROES Award is richly deserved. ●

"REBUILDING EVERY BURNED BLACK CHURCH"

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, the February edition of Delta Airline's Sky magazine contained an article about one of this Nation's finest corporate citizens, the International Paper Co.

IP has donated lumber and building materials to the National Council of Churches in its efforts to rebuild black churches burned by arsonists in recent years. One such church torched in 1994 was Friendship Missionary Baptist in Proctor, Crittenden County, AR.

Last year International Paper stepped in to help this congregation. Today a new Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is under construction.

Mr. President, I want to commend this fine corporate citizen for the role it is playing to reverse the misery and hardship that has been caused by these church burnings.

I commend the article to my colleagues and ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From Sky, February 1997]

REBUILDING EVERY BURNED BLACK CHURCH
LED BY CEO JOHN T. DILLON, INTERNATIONAL PAPER HAS GONE INTO "THE BLESSING BUSINESS"

(By Timothy Harper)

On Thanksgiving Day 1994, an arsonist apparently torched the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Proctor, Arkansas. It was one of the first in a series of deliberately set fires that spread through predominantly black churches across the South. Many Americans, of every color, were appalled. Not just about race and religion, these were attacks on the ideals of equality and freedom in America. Our concept of what constitutes a civilized society was being violated.

In subsequent months, dozens more black churches were burned, and by the late spring and early summer of 1996, the incidents had become a compelling national story. The FBI began investigating. The National Council of Churches established the Burned Churches Fund. Churches, companies and individuals across the nation made contributions to help congregations rebuild.

Many of the burned churches' congregations were poor, however, and didn't know if they could rebuild, even with donations. Until June 27, 1996, that is. One that date, John T. Dillon, chairman and chief executive officer of International Paper, the world's largest wood products company, quietly told the National Council of Churches that his company would donate lumber and building materials from his company's broad range of construction products.

In his private letter to the Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, Dillon promised to provide as much as was needed to rebuild every church. He put no ceiling on the amount of material to be donated, or the cost. Dillon merely asked the Council, which is overseeing the reconstruction of the churches, to coordinate the effort to make sure that every church got what it needed to rebuild.

Purchase, New York-based International Paper, which had revenues in 1995 of nearly \$20 billion and employs about 88,000 people around the world, provides the burned churches with lists of the company's wood and building materials, including beams, flooring, walls, sheeting, siding, shingles, doors and countertops. Churches, with the help of officials from the National Council of Churches, check off what they need and send the list back to International Paper. For churches that were burned to the ground, International Paper is providing up to 100 percent of the materials the company has to offer—and absorbing the costs.

Today, with a shipment of wood and materials from International Paper, a new Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is under construction near Proctor. "It's a wonderful thing," says Charles Eason, a deacon who is helping oversee the rebuilding. "We're just a small rural church, and this donation has made the difference for us. We don't know when we would have been able to rebuild without it."

In a memo to International employees explaining the donation, Dillon noted that many of the company's mills and local branches are in small towns across the South. "Beyond the instant tragedy associated with this wanton destruction, these events strike at the essence of what makes small-town communities so special," Dillon wrote. "For International Paper, small

towns and small-town values have long been an important part of our history. The spirit of unity, dedication to purpose and pride in performing well that are so fundamental to these communities have also been indispensable to our company's success. This link, together with the premium we place on corporate citizenship, requires that International Paper respond in this time of need."

The Rev. Albert Pennybacker, who is overseeing the church reconstruction program for the National Council of Churches, says 124 churches were damaged by burnings. Some were rebuilt before the offer from International Paper, but he and International Paper officials estimate that "several dozen" churches ultimately will receive free wood and building materials.

"This is a really remarkable gesture by International Paper, a remarkable commitment," Pennybacker says. "We were overwhelmed by [their] generosity." Beyond making the wood and materials available, he says, International Paper has made an extraordinary, perhaps unprecedented, promise to make deliveries right to the churches.

That is no small or easily fulfilled promise. Since many of the burned churches are in isolated areas, down country lanes or out in the middle of farm fields, on land no one else wanted, those special deliveries are often far off the company's established delivery routes, taking drivers and trucks out of their usual rotations. Moreover, International Paper promised to make deliveries within a few days of receiving orders from the churches, thereby adding many thousands of dollars in staff time and rescheduling headaches to the total cost of the company's donation.

Pennybacker says the National Council of Churches originally guessed that the donated materials would be worth \$1 million, but he now believes the cost to International Paper could be \$2 million or more—at wholesale prices, not counting the considerable costs of delivery. That means an actual savings of several million dollars for churches that otherwise would have to go out and buy their materials at retail prices.

International Paper, meanwhile, does not seem to care what the contribution will end up costing. "This is an open-ended commitment and, frankly, we're not sure just how much it's going to cost," says Carl Gagliardi, the International Paper executive coordinating the program out of the company's Memphis, Tennessee, office. "This is one of the best things this company has ever done. It's been terrific for morale."

Indeed, when International Paper's rank-and-file employees received Dillon's note outlining the company's commitment to the burned churches, many of them clamored to be part of it. A few weeks later, Pennybacker got a call at his office at the National Council of Churches headquarters in New York. An International Paper representative wanted to come in and drop off some donations from employees. Pennybacker expected "a few thousand dollars, maybe." The executive showed up with a big box and dumped on Pennybacker's desk checks worth \$37,787 from employees. He turned over another check for the same amount from International Paper, for a total donation of \$75,574, and explained that Dillon had decreed that the company would match workers' individual donations dollar for dollar.

"During the past several weeks, I received several notes from employees who were eager to contribute to the fund and were eloquent in expressing their appreciation for the company's support for the rebuilding of the churches and communities that were victimized," Dillon said in a follow-up companywide note. "I am extremely proud, but unsurprised, by the compassion, community concern and civic responsibility represented